

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4429

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3303

FOLG TELE REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO. QUOTE.

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: MRS. GANDHI'S SPEECHES AT SANTINIKETAN AND DURGAPUR

1. MRS. GANDHI'S SPEECH AT VISVA BHARATI UNIVERSITY AT SANTINIDETAN MORNING MARCH 3 WAS NOT BROADCAST OVER AIR CALCUTTA. WHAT WE HAVE ON IT IS FROM SAMACHAR AND FROM CALCUTTA PAPERS WHICH SENT REPORTERS ALONG TO COVER THE EVENT. FROM THESE REPORTS IT APPEARS THAT THE SPEECH WAS DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO CULTURAL THEME, APPARENTLY WITH NO MENTION OF DOMESTIC POLITICS OR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NOT EVEN A REFERENCE TO "EXTERNAL DANGERS" OR FOREIGN CRITICS.

2. PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH AT WEST BENGAL INDUSTRIAL TOWN OF DURGAPUR AFTERNOON MARCH 3 WAS BROADCAST OVER AIR CALCUTTA. WHILE SEVERAL CALCUTTA PAPERS PLAY UP QUOTES ABOUT EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL DANGERS AND GIVE
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IMPRESSION THIS WAS THE THEME OF THE SPEECH, TAPED TEXT

WHICH WE HAVE SHOWS THAT THE SPEECH WAS IN FACT A VERY MILD ONE. PRIME MINISTER SPOKE FOR ABOUT 40 MINUTES AND THE BULK OF THAT TIME WAS DEVOTED TO REMARKS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF INDIA'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, RAVAGES OF THE UNITED FRONT IN WEST BENGAL AND CONTRAST WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION, AND NEED FOR DISCIPLINE. ONLY IN PASSING DID SHE REFER TO "OUTSIDERS AS WELL AS SOME OF OUR OWN COUNTRYMEN" WHO HAD CRITICIZED INDIA AND NOT HELPED IT IN TIME OF TROUBLE. "WHENEVER WE WERE FACING TROUBLES THESE PEOPLE NEVER CAME FORWARD TO OUR HELP. THEY INSTEAD TRIED TO CREATE OBSTACLES TO THE FLOW OF AID TO INDIA. THESE PEOPLE ALSO NEVER THOUGHT OF COMING TO OUR AID EVEN WHEN THE PRESS IN THIS COUNTRY WAS FREE AND DEMOCRACY WAS IN FULL PLAY. ALL THE PREDICTIONS OF THE PEOPLE PROVED WRONG."

3. MRS GANDHI ADDED IN A LATER PASSAGE THAT "THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE IN AMERICA AND PAKISTAN WHO ARE EAGER TO HAVE FRIENDSHIP WITH INDIA" AND SAID SHE HAD RECEIVED THOUSANDS OF LETTERS FROM PEOPLE IN AMERICA, PAKISTAN, AND ENGLAND ENDORSING THE PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY. "THESE PEOPLE," SHE SAID, "FELT THAT SUCH A MEASURE IS ALSO NECESSARY IN THEIR COUNTRIES TO QUELL TROUBLES".
KORN
UNQUOTE.
SAXBE

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